

The Giver

Week of November 30, 2014

Season of Giving • Message 1

What do you think of the statement: ***It's more blessed to give than to receive?***

Have you ever had a time in your life when you truly had next to nothing? What were/are those days like for you? Did/do you feel like you had/have enough?

Why do you think that poor people are more likely to be generous?

This Christmas, to offset the danger of us thinking that stuff is important, we are doing four key things:

- ❖ Christmas for Everyone
- ❖ Kidopolis: The "Giving" Mall
- ❖ Christmas Generosity Project: Church Launching, Building Fund, Matrix
- ❖ The Gift Card Explosion: Look on the walls!

Which of these is the most motivating to you and why?

God: The Giver

Truth #1: If not for God, we would have nothing.

Read James 1:16-18 (p. 847). What part of that verse speaks the most to you?

Read Deuteronomy 26:1-11 (p. 138). The people had worked hard for their harvest, but God wants them to give him the credit. Is that fair?

What difference does it make to consider God as the trustworthy source of everything?

Truth #2: God is able and eager to give through givers.

Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-11 (p. 807). Paul says that God loves a cheerful giver. If that's true, what do you think God does when he finds one?

This passage clearly teaches that God will replenish those who give to others so that they can give even more. How trustworthy do you think that promise is?

If you were sure that God would fully replenish what you give away, how much would you give away?

Take it Home

**Everything good in my life is a gift
from God to make me into a giver too.**

In what ways has God gifted you to be a giver?

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